

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/911,092

Examiner

Liang-che Alex Wang

Applicant(s)

CROSBIE, DAVID B.

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 02/01/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/6/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SALEM NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Claims 1-18 are allowed.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joel H Lehrer on 04/04/2007.
4. The application has been amended as follow:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. A method for authorizing access by a user to a resource over a wireless local area network, comprising the steps of:

setting access privileges to the resource for a cluster of users of the wireless local area network, wherein the cluster is indicative of the user's role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource;

receiving a request from a device controlled by the user to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the user having a membership in the cluster, and the request including a user identifier for the user and a device identifier for the device making the request;

locating session context information based on the device identifier, the session context information having been associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session;

locating access privileges in response to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and

Art Unit: 2155

using the located access privileges and data contained in the session context information to authorize a current session between the device and the resource.

2. A system comprising a digital processor for authorizing access by a user to a resource over a wireless local area network, the system comprising:

a gateway application executing on the digital processor for setting access privileges to the resource for a cluster of users of the wireless local area network, wherein the cluster is indicative of the user's role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and

a communications interface coupled with the digital processor for receiving a request from a device controlled by the user to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the user having a membership in the cluster, and the request including a user identifier for the user and a device identifier for the device making the request,

the gateway application being responsive to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request and:

(i) locating session context information based on the device identifier, the session context information having been associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session;

(ii) locating access privileges based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and

(iii) using the located access privileges and data contained in the session context information to authorize a current session between the device and the resource.

Art Unit: 2155

3. A computer program product that includes a computer usable medium having computer program instructions stored thereon for authorizing access by a user to a resource over a wireless local area network, such that the computer program instructions, when performed by a digital processor, cause the digital processor to:

set access privileges to the resource for a cluster of users of the wireless local area network, wherein the cluster is indicative of the user's role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource;

receive a request from a device controlled by the user to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the user having a membership in the cluster, and the request including a user identifier for the user and a device identifier for the device making the request;

locate, in response to the device identifier, session context information associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session;

locate, in response to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request, access privileges based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and

use the located access privileges and data contained in the session context information to authorize a current session between the device and the resource.

4. A method for managing context information for a wireless local area network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the request including a device identifier for a device making the request;

locating, in response to the received request, session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information having been assigned to the device during a

Art Unit: 2155

previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and

providing the session context information to the device, thereby facilitating authentication of a current session between the device and the resource, based at least in part on the session context information and the access privileges.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the wireless local area network is based on a radio frequency suitable for use in local wireless communications.
6. The method of claim 4, wherein communications over the wireless local area network are based on a spread-spectrum technique based on a carrier frequency greater than about 2,000 megahertz.
7. The method of claim 4, wherein the device identifier is a unique identification number.
8. The method of claim 4, wherein the session context information includes an internet protocol address assigned to the device in the previous wireless session.
9. The method of claim 4, wherein the access privileges associated with a cluster of users was set for the cluster in a previous request to access the resource.

Art Unit: 2155

10. The method of claim 4, wherein the device is a voice-enabled communications device, and the gateway server is adapted for voice-enabled network communications.

11. A system comprising a digital processor for managing context information for a wireless local area network, the system comprising:

a communications interface coupled with the digital processor for receiving a request to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the request including a device identifier for a device making the request; and

a gateway application executing on the digital processor, in response to the received request, the gateway application locating session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information associated with a previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource, and providing the session context information and access privileges to authorize a current session between the device and the resource based thereon.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the wireless local area network is based on a radio frequency suitable for use in local wireless communications.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein communications over the wireless local area network are based on a spread-spectrum technique based on a carrier frequency greater than about 2,000 megahertz.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the device identifier is a unique identification number.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the session context information includes an internet protocol address assigned to the device in the previous wireless session.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein the access privileges associated with a cluster of users was set for the cluster in a previous request to access the resource.

17. The system of claim 11, wherein the device is a voice-enabled communications device, and the gateway server is adapted for voice-enabled network communications.

18. A computer program product that includes a computer usable medium having computer program instructions stored thereon for managing context information for a wireless local area network, such that the computer program instructions, when performed by a digital processor, cause the digital processor to:

receive a request to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the request including a device identifier for a device making the request;

locate, in response to the received request, session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information associated with a previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and

initiating a current session between the device and the resource based at least in part on the session context information and the access privileges.

Reason for allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach locating session context information based on the device identifier, the session context information having been associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session; locating access privileges in response to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and using the located access privileges and data contained in the session context information to authorize a current session between the device and the resource, in lights of other limitation described in independent claims 1, 2 and 3. The prior art of record does not teach locating, in response to the received request, session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information having been assigned to the device during a previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and providing the session context information to the device, thereby facilitating authentication of a current session between the device and the resource, based on the access privileges and the session context information, in lights of other limitation described in independent claims 4, 11, and 18.

Art Unit: 2155

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liang-che Alex Wang whose telephone number is (571)272-3992. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571)272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)..

Liang-che Alex Wang
April 11, 2007

Lu


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER